GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1554
ANSWERED ON:06.03.2000
ECO SYSTEMS IN MANGROVE FORESTS
C. SREENIVAASAN;PRABHAT KUMAR SAMANTARAY

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether eco-systems in the Mangrove forests especially in the Eastern Coast are increasingly threatened; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to preserve them from being denuded?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)
(a) & (b): According to the information available in the Ministry threats to Mangrove forests especially in the Eastern Coast have been reported due to increasing anthropogenic activities as well as pressures due to grazing by the cattle and cutting of Mangroves for fuel wood consumption. Realising the ecological and economical importance of Mangroves, Government of India, Ministry of Environment and Forests has initiated a scheme on Conservation and Management of Mangroves and Coral Reefs in 1986. On the recommendations of the National Committee 15 Mangrove areas in the country have been identified for intensive conservation. Grants are released to the concerned State Governments/Union Territories for implementing of Management Action Plans covering eco-regeneration, plantation and protection of Mangroves as well as education and awareness amongst the community for their conservation. Consultations have been held with the respective States to identify additional Mangrove areas in the country.